



**Endorsements of H.R. 4384,
The Energy for Our Future Act**

Connecticut Public Interest Research Group (ConnPIRG)

"Representative Shays' 'Energy for Our Future Act' is a forward thinking piece of legislation that will save consumers money and reduce our oil consumption. It creates real and significant change by increasing auto gas mileage standards to 40 miles per gallon, increasing renewable energy production and funding for weatherizing homes and restoring the state's authority in siting of LNG facilities. ConnPIRG applauds Representative Shays for his long dedication to protecting our environment, helping consumers, and reducing America's dependence on oil."

League of Conservation Voters

"We commend Congressman Shays for introducing the Energy for Our Future Act. As his legislation suggests, we cannot drill our way to energy independence nor rely on failed policies of the past. We must be forward-thinking and innovative by making real investments in clean, renewable energy technologies and promoting energy conservation. And we need to advance policies that protect consumers from skyrocketing energy prices instead of continuing to reward big oil companies already making record profits."

"LCV strongly supports Congressman Shays' new energy legislation as an important step toward a clean, sustainable energy future. His legislation will help reduce our dangerous dependence on foreign oil, protect the environment and create jobs and economic growth through development of renewable energies. When the House of Representatives begins a new session at the end of the month, LCV urges members to take up this important piece of legislation."

Natural Resources Defense Council

"Natural Resources Defense Council applauds the introduction of the Energy for Our Future Act (H.R. 4384). This bill lays out a comprehensive vision for a more efficient, clean and secure energy future. It is critical that our country break its dangerous addiction to oil. The Energy for Our Future Act will put us on the path towards achieving this goal through policies such as raising fuel efficiency standards for cars, promoting public transit, and providing incentives for automakers to retool their plants to make more fuel efficient vehicles."

"The bill will also increase the use of energy efficiency in buildings and the production of renewable energy. Deploying these clean energy resources will not only protect our environment, but also save consumers and businesses money."

“NRDC congratulates the sponsors of the bill for working in a bi-partisan manner. Such an approach is essential, and we look forward - along with other allies - to putting our shoulder to the wheel too.”

Republicans for Environmental Protection

**Statement by Woody Bliss First Selectman, Weston, CT and CT State Coordinator,
Republicans for Environmental Protection**

"As Republicans committed to protecting our environment, we endorse the Shays/Hinchey Energy for Our Future Act. It is a smart, forward-thinking bill that encourages conservation and innovation. Conservation is the true conservative approach, safeguarding the resources on which the health, recreation, and economic prosperity of present and future Americans depend. We at Republicans for Environmental Protection look forward to working to build support for the Energy for Our Future Act throughout our party and state."

Sierra Club

Statement of David Hamilton, Director, Global Warming & Energy Program

"Today, the Sierra Club applauds Representatives Shays and Hinchey for introducing legislation that will move America towards a cleaner, safer, and cheaper energy future. The Energy for Our Future Act (HR 4384) puts innovative solutions to work that will create new jobs and industries to tackle some of the most pressing problems facing our country, such as escalating energy prices, rising oil dependence, and global warming.

"This legislation stands in stark contrast to the energy policy recently passed by Congress, as well as recent efforts to waive environmental standards and open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge and our coastlines to oil and gas drilling. Instead of handing out billions of dollars in taxpayer dollars to already profitable companies, this bill would actually solve America's energy crisis by reducing our dependence on foreign oil, lowering energy bills, and developing a clean, balanced electricity system.

"The American public overwhelmingly supports the policies contained in this legislation, such as raising fuel economy standards, investing in renewable energy, increasing energy efficiency, strengthening clean air protections, and preventing destructive energy development in our communities and special places. Specifically, this legislation would save more oil than the United States currently imports from the entire Persian Gulf and could ever take out of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, combined. In addition, it would save the average driver over \$4,000 at the gas pump over the lifetime of their vehicle, while lowering other energy bills as well."

Audubon

Audubon Connecticut applauds Congressman Shays' *Energy for our Future Act*. Whether it is protecting the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge from the ravages of oil drilling or safeguarding Long Island Sound from a maze of energy cables, pipelines and the giant Broadwater liquid natural gas facility, energy conservation and the development of renewable energy sources is the answer. Instead of proposing to industrialize our pristine natural resources, Congressman Shays, with this legislation, focuses on the steps we can take today that will help us balance our need for energy with our need for a healthy environment.

“Energy use is an issue that directly bears on our environment, economy, international relations, and national security. Yet, our nation lacks a cogent energy policy that includes conservation, and the ramifications of this reach into the pocket of every American, affect the quality of the air quality we breathe, and threaten the health of Long Island Sound.

“Despite our domestic energy needs, the United States continues to *export* 1.3 million barrels of oil each day, while importing an average of 13.7 million barrels daily, according to the Department of Energy. The new energy bill signed into law last year barely addresses conservation and contains no provisions to improve the fuel efficiency of motor vehicles.

“To add to the difficulties, states and local governments have had their authority removed to regulate liquefied natural gas facilities, such as the one proposed by Broadwater in the middle of Long Island Sound— one of Connecticut’s most important bird habitats and open spaces.

“The *Energy for Our Future Act* fills the gap left by the recent federal energy bill. This legislation will improve fuel efficiency standards for cars and SUV’s, encourage the manufacture and purchase of energy efficient automobiles, as well as the use of public transportation, and provide incentives to make our homes and appliances more energy efficient - - saving both energy and family budgets. The bill will also restore states rights to decide where to site liquid natural gas facilities and pipelines such as the Broadwater facility currently proposed for Long Island Sound. With this legislation in place, we may finally have an answer to the question: Would the Broadwater facility be needed at all if Americans were better at conserving energy?”

Environmental Action

“Environmental Action is pleased to offer our endorsement for the Energy For Our Future Act, H.R. 4384. Your legislation is a bold and badly-needed effort to reduce our reliance on oil and to clear the way for clean, renewable sources of power.

“We appreciate your outstanding commitment to solving the most important energy and environmental problems facing the nation, and we look forward to working with you to building support for this important bill.”